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January 13, 2000 LB 419

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: (Visitors introduced.) Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. Senator Coordsen, thank you for bringing this amendment. I'm going to make a few comments, and then I would ask you a few questions to see if I'm on the right track. As I understand the amendment now, a vacant farm place that has no livestock production on it, is sitting out there in the middle of 160 acres that is being farmed, and the farmer is going around it, at the present time that is assessed as a farm place not just as part of the 160 acres that's being farmed. Am I correct in looking at it that way?

SENATOR COORDSEN: If there are no...if there is no access, if there is no electrical service, if there is no inhabitable dwelling, if there is no telephone or any other services that would indicate that it was a place people could live, I would believe that even under today's circumstances it would probably be valued at something other than an acreage, that is either waste ground, or timber, or pasture or something of that type. The guideline today seems to be, as I understand it, that it has potential to be a farm site. Now, a county assessor may well under...without the guidance...with the guidance that we have today in an individual county the assessor may well determine that to have potential value as a homesite. But I cannot give you a direct response.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Would this amendment clarify that, that it is not (inaudible)...

SENATOR COORDSEN: This amendment would provide, Senator Janssen, that in your particular case that it would not be valued as an acreage, but it would be valued as the contiguous land, even though we didn't farm it under this language, it would be valued at the same value as the land surrounding it. It wouldn't have...for an example, if the surrounding land was valued at \$800 an acre, under this language that land that's under the farmstead would be valued at \$800 an acre. Okav.

SENATOR JANSSEN: All right, thank you. That...that's the way I thought it read. And under the language in this amendment, the out buildings, such as the barn, hay shed, and so on and so